

Message Text

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 124071

FOR MR ROSENSTOCK OF USUN INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AFFAIRS

FOLLOWING REPEAT SAN JOSE 1965 ACTION SECSTATE 14 MAY 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 1965

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, CS

SUBJECT: LA NACION REPORT ON INTERVIEW WITH SECURITIES AND
EXCHANGE COMMISSION OFFICIALS ABOUT VESCO EXTRADITION

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DANILO ARIAS, LA NACION'S REPORTER NOW IN
WASHINGTON COVERING THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
QUOTED SEC SOURCES IN A MAY 13 ARTICLE AS SAYING THAT
"MOVEMENT HAS ACCELERATED IN RECENT WEEKS TOWARD
A WELL-ORDERED EXTRADITION PETITION TO THE COSTA
RICAN COURTS." THE PRESENTATION OF THE PETITION
ALLEGEDLY WILL REPORTEDLY BE MADE "...WITHIN A FEW WEEKS"
ACCORDING TO THESE SEC SOURCES. THE
ARIAS REPORT WENT ON TO QUOTE THE SEC: "WE HAVE MADE
A COMPLETE ANALYSIS OF VESCO'S LEGAL SITUATION AND
ONLY NEED NOW THAT HE COMES AND MAKES HIS DEFENSE."

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2. THE ARTICLE MENTIONED THAT THE EXTRADITION REQUEST WOULD BE BASED UPON THE "APPROPRIATION OF 224 MILLION DOLLARS FROM THE MUTUAL FUNDS" AND AN ILLEGAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION.

3. THE ARTICLE ALSO NOTED THAT SEC OFFICIALS ADMITTED THAT ERRORS WERE COMMITTED IN THE EARLIER EXTRADITION CASE AND THAT THEREFORE "THE CASE NEVER EVEN GOT TO THE JUDGES...".

4. AFTER NOTING ALSO THE NOTORIETY GAINED BY COSTA RICA BECAUSE OF VESCO'S PRESENCE, THE ARTICLE QUOTED SEC OFFICIALS AS SAYING "SOONER OR LATER HE WILL HAVE TO COME BEFORE US AND HERE IN THE UNITED STATES. AND HE (VESCO) KNOWS THAT IS THE WAY IT WILL BE." END UNCLASSIFIED BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL.

5. COMMENT: ARIAS' QUOTE ABOUT THE PREVIOUS VESCO EXTRADITION CASE NOT REACHING THE JUDGES IS CURIOUS AS WELL AS WRONG AND MAY BE HIS EDITORIALIZING BASED ON HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE PROCEDURES AND POSSIBLY OF COMMENTS BY FACIO WHO HAS OFTEN EXPRESSED HIS VIEW THAT THE U.S. PRESENTED A FAULTY CASE.

6. AS A SEPARATE POINT REGARDING VESCO, THE SEC AND U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MAY BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT VESCO'S TOP LAWYER AND COHORT ROBERT FOGLIA IS NOW LIVING IN COSTA RICA. EMBASSY SOURCES REPORT THAT HE MOVED HERE FROM NASSAU THREE MONTHS AGO.

7. WE ARE GETTING OTHER INDICATIONS THAT VESCO IS CONVINCED ANOTHER EXTRADITION ATTEMPT WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. THIS IS SAID TO PARTIALLY EXPLAIN FOGLIA'S PRESENCE HERE. EMBASSY WOULD WELCOME ANY INFORMATION ON FOGLIA THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL TO US IN MONITORING HIS ACTIVITIES HERE.
TODMAN

UNQUOTE. INGERSOLL

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